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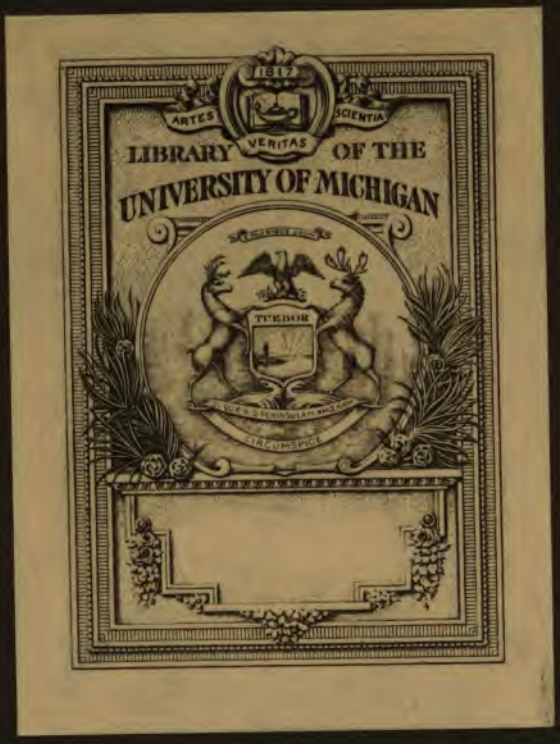
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REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION

OF THE

NEW YORK STATE

FOOD INVESTIGATING COMMISSION

APRIL 18, 1913

ALBANY
J. B. LYON COMPANY, PRINTERS
1913

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ALBANY, *April* 18, 1913.

New York Food Investigating Commission, Hon. CALVIN J. HUSON, *Secretary, Albany, N. Y.*

GENTLEMEN:

Attached herewith please find report of the Committee on Production of the State Food Investigating Commission, which is respectfully submitted for your consideration.

Yours very respectfully,

EZRA A. TUTTLE, *Chairman,*
L. H. BAILEY,
W. H. JORDAN.

HORACE V. BRUCE,
Expert Investigator.

FOREWORD

The rising prices of food stuffs and declining returns to producers compared with increases in cost of production has made necessary a careful consideration of the causes of these two apparently opposing tendencies. The object of this Committee has been to secure such data upon which it might be able to base some suggestions for improving conditions. As shown in the report of the Honorable Raymond A. Pearson, formerly Commissioner of Agriculture, who was engaged by the Committee as an expert to make some investigations into problems of production which is transmitted herewith, the best expert opinion of producers and agricultural students is that the volume of production of food products in the State can be easily doubled if not quadrupled, but that no such increase in production can be expected unless producers can secure a sufficient financial return to make it worth their while to so increase production.

The Committee wishes to extend its thanks to Mr. Horace V. Bruce, Expert Investigator for his assistance in securing and tabulating the costs of production and in the preparation of this report.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION OF THE NEW YORK STATE FOOD INVESTIGATING COMMISSION, APRIL 18, 1913

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1 — Scope of Inquiry.
2 — Division of various classes of food products grown in the State.
3 — Conditions under which production is being carried on.
4 — Difficulties of the producer.
5 — Present economic status of food production in this State and its tendencies.
6 — Influence of urban growth on producing population and on cultivable areas.
7 — Influence of transportation policies on production.
8 — Influence of good roads in stimulating production.
9 — Improvement in methods of selling farm products.
10 — Present tendencies.

Members of the Committee on Production of the Food Investigating Commission, as a result of a preliminary survey of the work to be undertaken by the entire Commission, became convinced that the work of the Committee on Markets, Prices and Costs was of paramount importance, and that such work as might be undertaken by the Committee on Production should be undertaken only after ample facilities had been placed at the command of the Committee on Markets, Prices and Costs to enable it to make a thorough and exhaustive study of that field.

The limited appropriation made by the Legislature for the work of the Food Investigating Commission, which was originally only $5,000 and afterwards increased to $15,000, made it impossible to undertake, with the single exception of the work of the Committee on Markets, Prices and Costs, original work of any moment into the questions surrounding the production of food products in this State.

The enormous number of persons operating farms in the State — more than 200,000 in all — scattered as they are over a territory of 40,000 square miles and cultivating more than 15,000,000 acres of land, made the task of securing comprehensive information as to conditions surrounding production throughout the

State one of enormous magnitude. The importance of the agricultural interests in the State, is shown by the present division of food products of general classes in this State, as taken from the Census figures for 1909 as follows:

	Value of products (*1909 Census Figures*)
Farm products, including fruits, vegetables, flowers, plants, nuts, maple sugar, nursery products, etc	$70,350,625
Poultry	25,504,894
Live stock — dairy products	77,807,000
Total	$173,663,519

Additional and more detailed figures recently secured from the Bureau of the Census show the total number of farms reporting for each vegetable, number of acres devoted to each variety, value of each variety for the crop year of 1909. The figures also show the agricultural division by counties of the different kinds of vegetables, showing likewise the number of farms in each county, number of acres of each county, devoted to a particular vegetable and value at the farm.

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF ALL VEGETABLES ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK. CROP YEAR 1909 — CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	.....	112,617	$9,031,705
Asgral	3	3	$ 445
Asparagus	434	1,003	127,370
Beans (green)	1,169	3,420	269,445
Beans (lima)	56	199	12,056
Beets	407	824	83,953
Beet greens	1	10	89
Brussels sprouts	175	356	43,765
Cabbage	11,321	35,269	2,335,999
Carrots	591	1,262	171,943
Cauliflower	505	1,720	333,806
Celery	851	2,926	946,424
Corn (pop)	188	344	13,697
Corn (sweet)	6,584	23,739	942,023
Cucumbers	1,780	3,350	337,841
Egg plant	10	15	4,300
Endive	2	10	200
Greens	4	17	3,130
Horse radish	91	238	34,645
Kale	14	34	2,572
Kohlerabi	4	4	270
Leeks	4	5	450
Lettuce	308	1,012	289,059
Muskmelons	529	978	119,650
Onions	1,518	5,558	954,610
Parsley	18	27	4,290

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF ALL VEGETABLES ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Parsnips	109	189	$ 23,583
Peas (green)	4,501	16,992	815,256
Peppers	49	71	8,566
Pumpkins	14	35	800
Radishes	123	287	36,938
Radishes (black)	22	42	4,050
Rhubarb	94	280	54,935
Roots	1	3	750
Rutabagas	2	3	275
Sage	1	2	100
Salad greens	45	82	20,630
Salsify	3	4	535
Scallion	7	17	800
Sorrel	4	11	1,305
Soup greens	15	25	7,865
Sour grass	2	6	1,175
Spearmint	1	1	20
Spinach	165	627	76,285
Squash	86	163	10,494
Swiss chard	1	2	320
Tomatoes	3,670	8,636	775,803
Turnips	1,255	2,727	151,098
Watermelons	71	89	8,088

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF GREEN BEANS, ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	1,169	3,420	$269,445
Albany	48	60	$ 5,937
Allegany	1	2	800
Broome	2	2	215
Cattaraugus	6	27	842
Cayuga	4	13	656
Chautauqua	44	139	7,935
Chemung	2	2	36
Chenango	2	2	135
Clinton	3	4	180
Columbia	2	2	80
Cortland	2	81	2,050
Dutchess	1	1	50
Erie	243	647	33,574
Essex	3	3	65
Franklin	1	1	115
Genesee	10	137	13,769
Herkimer	4	4	93
Jefferson	5	8	975
Kings	17	95	6,210

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF GREEN BEANS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Lewis	1	27	$ 1,126
Livingston	7	37	2,229
Madison	22	79	7,911
Monroe	53	100	9,836
Montgomery	1	1	150
Nassau	134	341	31,412
New York	2	4	250
Niagara	18	54	3,340
Oneida	26	575	60,365
Ontario	15	95	4,415
Onondaga	7	18	1,027
Orange	7	13	1,233
Orleans	8	57	8,301
Oswego	7	17	1,236
Otsego	4	8	457
Queens	253	398	34,089
Rensselaer	5	9	893
Richmond	19	33	2,852
Rockland	4	8	159
Saratoga	4	4	245
Schenectady	1	2	50
Schuyler	1	4	250
Seneca	1	1	24
Steuben	6	10	332
Suffolk	72	150	12,462
Tompkins	2	3	250
Ulster	2	2	121
Warren	3	3	80
Wayne	76	123	9,741
Westchester	8	14	1,296

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF CABBAGE, ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909 — CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	11,321	35,269	$2,335,999
Albany	258	496	$ 38,774
Allegany	40	92	6,926
Broome	90	183	14,298
Cattaraugus	60	93	8,024
Cayuga	511	962	67,259
Chautauqua	84	146	12,756
Chemung	37	84	6,299
Chenango	215	407	37,483
Clinton	18	26	3,764
Columbia	16	40	3,932
Cortland	663	1,560	144,452
Delaware	8	11	1,910

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF CABBAGE, ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909 — CENSUS 1910 — (*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Dutchess	36	54	$ 5,497
Erie	326	634	63,917
Essex	7	9	1,632
Franklin	8	19	2,032
Fulton	25	40	4,242
Genesee	321	842	46,310
Greene	14	19	2,500
Herkimer	37	72	8,697
Jefferson	35	58	5,460
Kings	38	169	23,189
Lewis	12	17	2,360
Livingston	242	949	33,501
Madison	303	584	43,474
Monroe	1,032	3,237	180,978
Montgomery	50	91	10,980
Nassau	478	3,012	241,252
New York	12	25	1,866
Niagara	713	1,948	69,547
Oneida	155	263	31,625
Ontario	1,357	7,232	265,048
Onondaga	1,628	4,449	408,924
Orange	46	79	8,227
Orleans	247	928	62,014
Oswego	79	103	8,989
Otsego	20	28	3,751
Putnam	2	3	150
Queens	226	1,169	154,502
Rensselaer	83	150	17,038
Richmond	39	136	14,185
Rockland	40	86	8,869
St. Lawrence	21	34	5,763
Saratoga	81	142	12,363
Schenectady	51	119	12,461
Schoharie	5	5	885
Schuyler	11	32	1,360
Seneca	118	444	13,004
Steuben	51	99	7,510
Suffolk	204	827	58,414
Sullivan	4	6	465
Tioga	19	31	3,460
Tompkins	82	142	12,952
Ulster	87	177	15,732
Warren	12	22	3,115
Washington	12	16	2,704
Wayne	645	1,628	71,658
Westchester	46	77	7,744
Wyoming	49	112	6,645
Yates	212	851	23,131

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF SWEET CORN ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	6,584	23,739	$942,023
Albany	315	772	$ 35,661
Allegany	34	152	3,236
Broome	64	141	7,056
Cattaraugus	57	135	5,485
Cayuga	161	533	14,932
Chautauqua	303	938	27,399
Chemung	58	134	8,832
Chenango	18	26	799
Clinton	28	65	2,566
Columbia	45	118	4,027
Delaware	6	10	653
Dutchess	78	163	6,849
Erie	505	1,430	58,065
Essex	14	34	1,575
Franklin	17	44	1,942
Fulton	27	39	2,348
Genesee	30	82	1,768
Greene	35	260	3,281
Hamilton	1	1	20
Herkimer	64	202	6,993
Jefferson	61	170	6,264
Kings	24	167	18,291
Lewis	23	83	1,323
Livingston	66	1,017	26,973
Madison	356	1,557	30,715
Monroe	370	1,023	47,327
Montgomery	66	150	9,285
Nassau	369	3,128	203,082
New York	4	9	1,360
Niagara	188	411	18,020
Oneida	957	3,857	118,058
Ontario	88	275	5,568
Onondaga	321	791	31,089
Orange	109	215	10,381
Orleans	196	596	14,802
Oswego	345	1,047	22,239
Otsego	15	27	1,864
Putnam	15	19	1,005
Queens	203	1,179	64,060
Rensselaer	97	493	15,222
Richmond	28	106	4,641
Rockland	23	49	2,979
St. Lawrence	32	62	1,998
Saratoga	151	400	14,972
Schenectady	64	188	9,128
Schoharie	2	3	213
Schuyler	4	7	220
Seneca	33	95	2,004
Steuben	36	61	2,037
Suffolk	71	130	6,867
Sullivan	12	17	455
Tioga	9	20	1,104
Tompkins	6	12	2,100
Ulster	94	206	10,549

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF SWEET CORN ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Warren	32	62	$ 2,819
Washington	31	66	3,198
Wayne	124	535	11,189
Westchester	88	205	24,169
Wyoming	6	7	333
Yates	9	15	633

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF CUCUMBERS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	1,780	3,350	$337,841
Albany	159	274	$ 18,429
Broome	1	1	120
Cattaraugus	3	3	205
Cayuga	5	6	525
Chautauqua	3	4	450
Chemung	1	1	50
Columbia	2	2	350
Dutchess	2	2	300
Erie	280	408	33,914
Essex	1	3	225
Franklin	2	2	400
Fulton	2	2	330
Genesee	1	3	230
Greene	1	1	50
Herkimer	5	5	415
Jefferson	4	4	675
Kings	3	5	520
Livingston	1	1	140
Madison	122	215	8,670
Monroe	112	156	15,537
Montgomery	21	24	2,122
Nassau	252	740	92,814
New York	3	14	1,385
Niagara	44	51	3,573
Oneida	24	33	2,682
Ontario	31	64	6,053
Onondaga	89	140	10,307
Orange	4	4	415
Orleans	2	3	151
Oswego	72	80	4,701
Queens	23	33	2,555
Rensselaer	8	13	793
Richmond	6	10	14,240
Rockland	26	52	3,695
Saratoga	8	12	805
Schenectady	9	14	863

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES, AND VALUE OF CUCUMBERS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Seneca	1	2	$ 48
Suffolk	186	509	84,831
Tompkins	1	1	85
Ulster	3	5	251
Warren	1	2	100
Washington	43	77	4,351
Wayne	195	323	15,058
Westchester	16	44	4,614
Wyoming	2	2	14

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF ONIONS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909 — CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	1,518	5,558	$954,610
Albany	48	94	$ 8,190
Allegany	4	12	298
Broome	12	20	3,594
Cattaraugus	3	4	552
Cayuga	16	39	6,583
Chautauqua	17	42	10,591
Chemung	19	35	1,846
Clinton	4	4	1,010
Columbia	8	9	1,805
Cortland	1	1	500
Dutchess	4	4	941
Erie	100	158	29,218
Essex	2	2	112
Franklin	4	4	470
Fulton	2	2	170
Genesee	6	29	7,310
Greene	5	8	1,226
Herkimer	17	86	5,709
Jefferson	8	11	905
Kings	14	25	3,509
Lewis	1	1	90
Livingston	33	69	22,451
Madison	106	569	119,144
Monroe	67	101	20,125
Montgomery	8	12	3,500
Nassau	9	16	1,835
New York	4	10	3,025
Niagara	6	91	25,574
Oneida	17	23	4,673
Ontario	24	46	9,659
Onondaga	36	72	12,066
Orange	426	2,821	405,953
Orleans	12	17	3,939

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF ONIONS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Oswego	6	8	$ 1,576
Putnam	1	2	450
Queens	89	206	44,446
Rensselaer	12	22	4,069
Richmond	3	4	1,592
Rockland	3	3	130
St. Lawrence	5	5	669
Saratoga	6	6	1,065
Schenectady	4	5	1,850
Schoharie	15	12	2,107
Schuyler	2	2	475
Seneca	10	15	3,107
Steuben	15	20	2,756
Suffolk	7	40	8,066
Tioga	1	1	150
Ulster	24	60	9,007
Warren	1	1	280
Washington	1	1	320
Wayne	261	691	154,439
Westchester	4	7	703
Wyoming	5	10	780

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF GREEN PEAS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK CROP, YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	4,501	16,992	$815,256
Albany	111	178	$ 9,167
Allegany	3	6	84
Broome	10	16	1,530
Cattaraugus	29	62	1,911
Cayuga	81	263	8,703
Chautauqua	205	723	25,730
Chemung	14	20	1,434
Chenango	6	8	508
Clinton	1	1	100
Columbia	5	8	403
Cortland	28	58	3,651
Delaware	3	6	765
Dutchess	7	8	796
Erie	795	2,929	145,220
Essex	4	5	607
Franklin	4	6	414
Fulton	4	6	760
Genesee	161	1,159	37,365
Greene	3	3	251
Herkimer	10	24	1,862
Jefferson	11	26	1,693

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF GREEN PEAS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Kings	1	1	$ 150
Lewis	20	94	3,340
Livingston	67	1,210	112,736
Madison	607	2,120	101,182
Monroe	203	612	30,578
Montgomery	17	34	3,515
Nassau	140	379	26,517
Niagara	150	739	24,043
Oneida	482	1,988	88,874
Ontario	74	237	11,266
Onondaga	197	592	29,792
Orange	14	21	1,549
Orleans	293	1,174	42,366
Oswego	144	434	17,360
Otsego	107	298	19,774
Queens	64	171	9,293
Rensselaer	8	14	1,118
Richmond	15	26	1,155
Rockland	2	1	55
St. Lawrence	5	7	340
Saratoga	14	22	1,593
Schenectady	12	22	1,294
Schoharie	4	6	297
Schuyler	1	1	40
Seneca	31	110	3,708
Steuben	101	398	13,906
Suffolk	9	12	789
Sullivan	1	1	150
Tompkins	5	13	1,506
Ulster	4	4	170
Warren	3	5	265
Wayne	186	569	18,388
Westchester	4	10	582
Wyoming	20	149	4,391
Yates	1	3	150

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF TOMATOES ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909, CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	3,670	8,636	$775,803
Albany	233	400	$ 42,961
Allegany	1	2	100
Broome	13	18	3,346
Cattaraugus	8	12	1,006
Cayuga	17	22	3,610
Chautauqua	168	335	28,153
Chemung	16	23	2,839

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF TOMATOES ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Clinton	4	6	$ 2,100
Columbia	11	20	2,352
Dutchess	20	26	3,398
Erie	427	738	68,863
Essex	1	6	300
Franklin	7	8	775
Fulton	6	7	391
Genesee	12	32	1,626
Greene	10	13	1,263
Herkimer	16	124	3,237
Jefferson	12	17	2,550
Kings	15	35	2,464
Lewis	1	1	32
Livingston	10	101	4,609
Madison	9	24	1,947
Monroe	422	730	73,915
Montgomery	39	76	9,329
Nassau	277	854	100,625
New York	15	34	3,443
Niagara	725	1,567	98,088
Oneida	42	63	12,540
Ontario	20	41	2,857
Onondaga	216	514	38,385
Orange	32	48	6,009
Orleans	256	659	37,126
Oswego	8	8	2,136
Queens	256	1,054	111,281
Rensselaer	35	71	7,540
Richmond	47	487	35,992
Rockland	9	12	1,880
St. Lawrence	22	39	3,221
Saratoga	28	44	8,411
Schenectady	34	59	9,233
Schoharie	2	4	850
Schuyler	1	1	150
Seneca	9	28	2,557
Steuben	3	3	730
Suffolk	54	117	10,882
Sullivan	1	1	85
Tompkins	5	9	1,660
Ulster	30	38	4,277
Warren	2	3	1,050
Washington	2	3	175
Wayne	21	40	2,700
Westchester	30	48	8,812
Wyoming	1	1	320
Yates	9	10	622

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF TURNIPS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909, CENSUS 1910.

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
The State	1,255	2,727	$151,098
Albany	45	71	$ 2,914
Allegany	32	82	3,121
Broome	20	36	1,517
Cattaraugus	86	253	10,047
Cayuga	20	48	1,312
Chautauqua	46	96	4,881
Chemung	7	16	1,175
Chenango	32	67	3,640
Clinton	13	19	1,021
Columbia	17	39	754
Cortland	10	20	811
Delaware	4	5	510
Dutchess	19	36	1,243
Erie	30	57	3,061
Essex	3	3	132
Franklin	11	16	2,339
Fulton	6	14	457
Genesee	2	2	80
Greene	3	4	218
Hamilton	1	2	150
Herkimer	11	30	2,285
Jefferson	5	5	406
Kings	14	54	4,415
Lewis	13	24	1,875
Livingston	2	11	780
Madison	15	32	1,790
Monroe	58	92	7,584
Montgomery	10	16	950
Nassau	121	312	23,122
New York	4	8	265
Niagara	3	4	400
Oneida	32	58	3,994
Ontario	3	5	210
Onondaga	44	69	21,852
Orange	30	55	2,897
Orleans	5	8	538
Oswego	16	26	1,910
Otsego	27	44	2,992
Putnam	10	19	440
Queens	66	151	10,683
Rensselaer	38	95	2,888
Richmond	7	17	604
Rockland	14	24	1,429
St. Lawrence	16	29	1,998
Saratoga	22	33	1,109
Schenectady	6	8	217
Schoharie	3	5	150
Seneca	2	8	174
Steuben	3	6	180
Suffolk	146	359	22,265
Sullivan	9	11	516
Tioga	3	7	245
Tompkins	6	14	600
Ulster	19	27	1,040

NUMBER OF FARMS, ACRES AND VALUE OF TURNIPS ON FARMS REPORTING ONE ACRE OR OVER FOR THE STATE OF NEW YORK, CROP YEAR 1909—CENSUS 1910—(*Concluded*).

	Farms reporting.	Acres.	Value.
Warren	8	9	$ 980
Washington	26	78	1,223
Wayne	4	7	205
Westchester	27	53	3,900
Wyoming	11	27	1,574
Yates	1	1	30

In view of the limitations of time and money referred to above, the Committee decided that an original investigation into cost of production must be limited to isolated sections of the State and to a few commodities, and that the chief sources of information must be the studies into cost of production, undertaken by the State College of Agriculture at Ithaca, supplemented by such information as the Committee could secure by correspondence from persons known to be engaged in the production of the various food products raised in the State. In pursuance of this program, arrangements were made with the State College of Agriculture at Ithaca to supply the Committee with such figures on cost of production as might be available and in addition to this, blanks were prepared, and sent by mail to a selected list of producers of various commodities with a request that they give the Committee such information as they possess on the cost of production. The result of these inquiries is set forth in the following tables:

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON POTATOES.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in bushels last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
20	165	$123 75	$71 00	.....	$52 75
1/2	*71	*71 00	46 00	.....	25 00
5	125	62 50	53 50	.....	9 00
12	350	175 00	75 25	.....	99 75
11	225	146 25	33 96	.....	112 29
2	175	175 00	20 00	.....	155 00
3	300	240 00	120 40	.....	119 60
2	200	100 00	85 00	.....	15 00
2	250	125 00	90 25	.....	35 75
2	150	75 00	76 00	$1 00	.....
10	175	105 00	109 50	4 50	.....

* 1/2 acre.

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS OF POTATOES—(*Concluded*).

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in bushels last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
26	125	$93 75	$71 79	.....	$21 96
25	150	90 00	91 72	$1 72	.....
40	225	146 25	99 82	.....	46 43
10	200	160 00	66 99	.....	93 01
5	160	107 20	100 40	.....	6 80
40	143	92 23	79 30	.....	12 93
25	125	75 00	91 92	16 92	.....
30	160	104 00	67 48	.....	36 52
23	175	105 00	108 73	3 73	.....
13	130	71 50	96 95	25 45	.....
60	118	76 70	120 75	44 05	.....
8	175	124 25	76 98	.....	47 27
12	110	66 00	72 25	6 25	.....
6	201	120 39	124 58	4 19	.....
30	168	107 52	104 93	.....	2 59
15	175	113 75	104 90	.....	8 85
15	150	97 50	93 70	.....	3 80
16	197	142 20	95 48	.....	46 72
18	170	119 00	97 90	.....	21 10
26 3/5	137	104 12	71 70	.....	32 42
25	200	130 00	158 40	28 40	.....
10	100	60 00	112 05	52 05	.....

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON APPLES.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in barrels or bushels last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
14	107 1/7 bbl.	$212 15	$70 75	.....	$141 40
14	60 5/7 bbl.	21 84	72 00	$50 16	.....
12	208 1/3 bu..	93 75	49 60	.....	44 15
8	312 1/2 bu..	88 75	96 50	7 75	.....
20	60 bbl.....	78 60	69 80	.....	8 80
6	25 bbl.....	38 12	44 25	6 13	.....
20	165 bu.....	149 25	70 35	.....	78 90
75	22 2/3 bbl.	61 20	61 25	05	.....
10	29 1/10 bbl.	47 00	87 70	40 70	.....
25	300 bu.....	201 00	145 40	.....	55 60
4	70 bu.....	38 62	9 25	.....	29 37
4	107 1/2 bu..	76 12	21 50	.....	54 62
15	11 1/3 bbl.	15 60	20 00	4 40	.....
5	45 bbl.....	80 25	48 90	.....	31 35
8	140 5/8 bu..	77 35	52 50	.....	24 85
40	12 1/2 bu..	14 07	14 50	43	.....
15	36 bbl.....	65 96	44 67	.....	21 29
18	100 bbl.....	33 33	42 33	9 00	.....
16	62 1/2 bbl.	22 62	60 75	38 13	.....
23	48 bbl.....	77 19	71 61	.....	5 58

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON PEACHES.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in baskets, bushels or pounds last five years.	Average yield income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
18.....	33 1/3 bask.	$200	$165 00	.....	$35 00
6.....	125 bu.....	150	78 00	.....	72 00
1 1/2.....	4,000 lbs...	200	106 67	.....	93 33

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON PEARS.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield in pounds per acre last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
2.....	4,000 lbs...	$100 00	$77 00	.....	$23 00

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON GRAPES.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in baskets or tons last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
8.....	3 tons.....	$75 00	$55 00	.....	$20 00
15.....	2 1/2 tons...	60 00	37 00	.....	23 00
25.....	400 (8 lb.) bask.	50 00	29 50	.....	21 50
5 1/2.....	910 (3 1/2 lb.) bask.....	82 00	55 20	.....	26 80

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON CAULIFLOWER.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in barrels last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
4.....	50	$75 00	$160 25	$85 25	.....
4.....	25	31 25	93 00	61 75	.....
8.....	190	190 00	125 50	.....	$64 50
8 2/5.....	185	170 20	110 00	.....	60 25
6.....	12 1/2	42 25	129 60	87 35	.....

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON LIMA BEANS.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in bushels last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
3 1/2.....	85	$85 00	$61 50	.....	$23 50

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON BRUSSELS SPROUTS.

Average acreage last five years.	Average yield per acre in quarts last five years.	Average income per acre last five years.	Average cost production per acre last five years.	Average loss per acre last five years.	Average profit per acre last five years.
3 1/2.....	2,000	$260 00	$126 25	.....	$133 75
2.....	2,550	229 50	131 00	.....	98 50
1.....	2,000	180 00	114 55	.....	65 45

COST OF PRODUCTION AND PROFIT OR LOSS ON MILK.

Number of cows.	Average value.	Total expenses.	Expense per cow.	Total income.	Loss per cow.	Profit per cow.
14.....	$50–$75	$2,640	$188	$3,000	.....	$25 00
25.....	50– 74	2,000	80	1,600	$16	.....
14.....	250–500	2,196	157	2,650	.....	32 00
7.....	50	1,250	178	420	118	.....
20.....	75	900	45	900	.....	.....
25.....	50– 60	2,190	87	2,000	7	.....
8.....	25– 40	1,000	125	250	93	.....
12.....	35– 40	1,840	153	105	61	.....
20.....	40	1,950	97	2,000	.....	2 50
21.....	50– 75	1,945	92	1,800	2	.....

In the preparation of the foregoing tables, no account has been taken of the improvement in the farmer's condition due to increase in land values, which as shown by the Federal Census of 1910 have increased for the State as a whole $7.79 per acre over the figures of 1900.

At first view, it might appear that this increase in land value is a positive benefit to the farmer since it thereby increases the value of the asset upon which he can borrow money, and enables him to

get more for his farm in case he sells it. The fact is, however, that as long as he remains on the same farm as a producer of farm products, which he is in many cases producing at a loss, as already shown above, he cannot take advantage of increased land values without selling his farm or without borrowing money based upon such increased borrowing capacity. In the latter case, he would probably borrow money to make up deficits caused by losses in his current operations.

In the former case, if he sells his farm at the increased value, he ceases to become a producer and the buyer will either take the land out of use for his own comfort or if he attempts to continue production, will do so even under greater handicaps than his predecessor.

An examination of these tables shows that the farmers of the State are in many cases actually losing money on the production of food products raised by them, if proper charges are made for depreciation, interest or investment, taxes, etc., and no allowance is made for the increase in land values.

In the case of milk production, it will be noted that out of ten cases, in only three was there any profit at all per cow, while in some cases, the loss per cow was very large. This means that farming operations on such farms can only be carried on at all by making up the loss on milk production by the sale of other farm crops.

In this connection a study of milk production in Delaware County for the year 1911 and 1912 made by the State College of Agriculture at Ithaca is of great significance, showing a loss of $160,033 on milk production in that county, or a loss per cow on the average, based upon the production of 5,164 cows, of $31.24. It is obvious that the position of the milk producers is desperate.

MILK PRODUCTION IN DELAWARE COUNTY FOR THE YEAR 1911-12.

Introduction.

The following report is the result of an investigation made by A. L. Thompson of the Department of Farm Management of the New York State College of Agriculture on the cost of producing milk. The report includes the records from 165 dairy farms in Delaware county for the year beginning August 1, 1911, and ending August 1, 1912. A representative from the department visited each of the farms and obtained the data. All the data has been carefully checked over so as to avoid any mathematical errors.

Conditions in Delaware County.

Delaware county is intersected by numerous small streams. The narrow strip of land adjoining these streams is level and quite fertile, but the land back from the valleys is rough, steep and rocky. The land in the valleys is used for tilled crops, but that on the hillsides is too steep for cultivation. The growing season is short, since the average time between the last frost in the spring and the first frost in the fall is 130 days (Cornell Bulletin No. 316). The small proportion of tillable area together with the short growing season limits the type of farming to be followed. The larger proportion of the county is suitable only for grazing purposes. The abundance of running water together with its location in reference to New York City aid in making this a dairy region. Dairying for many years has been and perhaps will continue for a long time to be the leading industry.

A large portion of the milk is purchased by two large milk companies. This milk is sold on test. Milk of a certain standard is worth a certain amount. This amount is called the "flat price." If milk tests above this figure, a proportional premium is paid and if the test falls below this figure, the price is discounted. The standard set by these companies vary, one being 4.2 per cent. and the other 4.5 per cent. In order to get these premiums, the farmers keep only high testing herds. The average herd in this region tests from 4.8 per cent. to 5 per cent. It costs more to produce milk of this quality than it does to produce

milk of ordinary grade which tests from 3.2 to 3.4 per cent. Such milk is worth more and should demand a higher price. The average price paid for this milk was $1.63 which was 64 cents per cwt. less than it actually cost the farmers to produce it in the year ending August 1, 1912 (a year of high prices of feed). This price is low for milk of this quality.

One may say that these farmers should keep better cows. The production from these cows is slightly more than the average and the quality is far superior. Still the average cow will not pay the producer's farm wages even though feed sells at a normal price. When the average farmer with average cows and average prices is unable to make wages, something is at fault. The price of milk is too low.

Summary of Costs.

Average Capital Invested in the Dairy Business on 165 Farms with 5,164 Cows.

		Cost.
Buildings used by cows	$349,077 00	
Equipment used by cows	8,280 44	
Feed	117,695 00	
Pasture, 15,625 acres	307,961 00	
Cattle	255,298 00	
Total	$1,038,311 45	
Interest at 5 per cent		$51,915 57

Summary of Feed Used.

88 tons grain raised	$2,769 00	
5,229.9 tons grain purchased	165,330 93	
5,093 tons silage raised	25,465 00	
11,700.8 tons forage raised except silage	207,250 80	
60.1 tons forage purchased	1,204 00	
Use of 15,625 acres of pasture land	6,745 06	
443 tons straw	4,291 00	
303 loads sawdust and leaves	215 25	
606 bales shavings	137 57	
		413,408 61

Cost of Labor.

Hauling milk:		
73,558 man hours, at 15 cents	$11,033 70	
408 boy hours, at 10 cents	40 80	
138,319 horse hours, at 12 cents	16,598 16	
Other dairy work:		
667,282 man hours, at 15 cents	100,092 30	
160,381 child and women hours, at 10 cents	16,038 10	
10,386 horse hours, at 12 cents	1,246 32	
Total labor cost		145,049 38

Building Costs.

		Cost.
New buildings	$16,265 00	
Purchased materials	8,506 65	
Materials furnished by farm	1,475 50	
Labor, board and teams	2,188 50	
Insurance	1,131 00	
	$29,566 65	
Less increase in value of buildings	20,273 00	
Total cost of buildings		$9,293 65

Equipment Costs.

New equipment	$1,179 55	
Cash repairs	606 20	
Decrease in value of equipment	173 10	
Total cost of equipment		1,958 85

Miscellaneous Costs.

Cash paid for hauling milk	$3,768 87	
Insurance on stock	779 90	
Veterinary fees	593 20	
Medicines	741 75	
Fly protectors	216 65	
Breeding fees	69 00	
Testing fees	84 00	
Registration fees, etc	47 50	
Skim milk	1,934 37	
Ice	1,298 00	
Grinding fees	154 46	
Miscellaneous	8 00	
Total miscellaneous costs		9,695 70
Total cost of dairy		$631,321 76

Total cost of dairy	$631,321 76
Value of manure, hides, breeding fees, milk used by farmer's family, increased value of cattle and sales above purchases.	63,322 45
Cost of milk sold	567,999 31
Returns from sales of milk	407,966 12
Net loss on dairy	160,033 19
Cost per cwt. of milk	2 27
Returns per cwt. from milk	1 63
Loss per cwt. on milk	64

SUMMARY PER COW.

If these costs were figures on the basis of one cow they would be as follows:

Costs.

1.03 tons grain, at $31.61	$32 56
.99 tons silage, at $5	4 95
2.28 tons hay, at $17.72	40 40
Use of 3 acres of pasture	1 31

		Cost.
Bedding	$ 90	
Interest on average capital invested, $201, at 5 per cent	10 05	
Cost of shelter	1 80	
Cost of equipment	19	
Cost of labor, 1,603 hours	22 49	
Cost of horse labor, 2 hours	24	
Cost of hauling milk	6 09	
Miscellaneous costs	1 15	
Total cost per cow		$122 13
Returns Per Cow.		
4,900 pounds milk, at $1.63 per cwt	$79 87	
Hides, breeding fees, etc	76	
Increase in value of cattle and sales above purchases	1 14	
Manure aside from that purchased at pasture, at $1 per load at barn *	9 12	
Total returns per cow		90 89
Loss per cow		$31 24

* Pasture is charged at actual cost aside from manure. Cows are not credited with manure produced at pasture. If they were they would have to be charged with this much more for pasture so that the two items offset each other. Manure is valued at $1 per ton at barn. The time of hauling manure is not charged to cows. This would make the cost of manure $1.50 to $2 per load on the field.

Probable Costs with Grain at $25, *Hay at* $12, *and Silage at* $4 *Per Ton.*

The year for which this data was secured (Aug. 1, 1911-Aug. 1, 1912), was one of high feed prices. The average price of the grain fed was $31.61 per ton, silage was considered to be worth $5 per ton and the average value of other forage was $17.72 per ton. These values were used in these computations. While these prices are the ones that prevailed in Delaware county during that time, they are considerably higher than in an average year. The average price received for the milk, $1.63 per hundred, was somewhat higher than usual, but the milk price had not increased in proportion to the feed. Therefore, these figures show conditions to be worse than they are in a normal year. Aside from the high cost of feed, other conditions seem to be about normal. What can these farmers expect to make in a normal year? These dairymen cannot hope to secure prices less than: grain $25, hay $12, and silage $4. If we assume that the price of milk remains the same (as a matter of fact it is now lower than it was at this

time last year) and if all costs other than feed remain the same, the cost would have been as follows:

Costs.		
1.03 tons grain, at $25	$25 75	
.99 tons silage, at $4	3 96	
2.28 tons hay, at $12	27 36	
All other costs (same as before)	44 22	
Total cost		$101 29
Cost per cwt., $2.07.		
Receipts.		
Receipts (same as before)		91 38
Loss per cow		$9 91

It is evident that even with these prices of feed the farmer does not get interest on his capital, 15 cents per hour for his time and 10 cents per hour for the time of his wife and children.

If the average farmer makes 15 cents per hour, it must be due to the profit he makes on the hay grown. Some farmers who have much better cows than the average make a profit from the dairy. It may be suggested that all farmers should have such cows but there are not enough such cows in existence. When the average fails to pay expenses, it would appear that the price of the product is too low.

SOME DETAILED FIGURES.

Capital Invested in the Dairy Business on 165 Farms.

Buildings:	1911.	1912.	
Barns	$318,208 00	$336,535 00	
Silos	10,345 00	11,315 00	
Milk houses	7,468 00	8,217 00	
Ice houses	2,919 00	3,146 00	
Total	$338,940 00	$359,213 00	
Average capital in buildings			$349,077 00
Equipment:			
Cans	$2,229 65	$2,179 15	
Pails and strainers	531 00	519 85	
Coolers	41 00	41 00	
Testers and bottles	104 00	100 50	
Wagons	4,746 00	4,195 00	
Scales	71 35	66 00	
Separators	62 00	60 00	
Churns	32 00	32 40	
Milk machines	550 00	1,000 00	
Total	$8,367 00	$8,193 90	
Average capital in equipment			8,280 45

Feed:
Average value of feed on hand $117,695 00

Pasture:
15,625 acres, at $19.67 ..... 307,961 00

Kind.	1911. No.	1911. Value.	1912. No.	1912. Value.	
Cows	5,213	$213,417 00	5,115	$210,520 00	
Heifers	938	24,205 00	1,115	29,525 00	
Calves	868	9,880 00	766	9,945 00	
Bulls	147	6,303 00	154	6,800 00	
Total	....	$253,805 00	.....	$256,790 00	
Average capital in cattle					255.298 00
					$1,039,803 45

Quantities and Values of Feed Used in Producing Milk.

Grain Raised:

18.0 tons	buckwheat, at $35.42	$637 50
50.6 tons	oats, at $33.31	1,685 50
11.6 tons	oats and barley, at $26.72	310 00
6.5 tons	corn, at $12.85	83 50
.8 tons	rye, at $46.88	37 50
.5 tons	buckwheat bran, at $30	15 00
88.0 tons	Total grain raised	$2,769 00

Grain purchased:

34.0 tons	ajax, at $32.85	$1,117 00
183.6 tons	beet pulp, at $27.25	5,003 10
85.1 tons	brewers' grains, at $30.19	2,569 50
131.6 tons	corn meal, at $43.27	5,694 60
1,105.1 tons	cottonseed meal, at $33.30	36,802 65
255.2 tons	gluten (continental), at $33.93	8,658 00
1,266.2 tons	gluten (yellow), at $32.49	41,140 90
16.0 tons	middlings (wheat), at $30	480 00
10.0 tons	middlings (buckwheat), at $29	290 00
764.1 tons	molasses feed, at $27.80	21,245 70
13.2 tons	oil meal, at $36.74	485 00
9.0 tons	quaker oat feed, at $23.44	211 00
796.5 tons	wheat feed, at $31.29	24,925 20
321.9 tons	hominy, at $31.57	10,167 80
188.5 tons	miscellaneous, at $33.44	5,738 50
4.7 tons	calf meal, at $56.06	263 50
45.2 tons	salt, at $11.91	538 48
5,229.9 tons.	Total grain purchased	$165,330 93

Silage raised:

5,093.0 tons	corn silage, at $5	$25,465 00

Forage raised except silage:

53.0 tons	oat hay, at $16.17	$857 00

10,293.5	tons mixed hay, at $18.33	$188,652 00
13.0	tons alfalfa hay, at $19.85	258 00
232.5	tons pea and oat hay, at $17.46	4,058 50
292.0	tons millet, at $16.52	4,822 50
553.8	tons corn stover, at $11	6,091 80
260.0	tons wheat and oat straw, at $9.61	2,499 00
3.0	tons buckwheat straw, at $4	12 00
11,700.8	tons. Total forage raised except silage	$207,250 80

Forage purchased:		
8.5	tons alfalfa hay, at $23.06	$196 00
2.3	tons clover hay, at $23.26	53.50
37.8	tons mixed hay, at $21.68	819 50
11.5	tons straw, at $11.74	135 00
60.1	tons. Total forage purchased	$1,204 00

Pasture:	
Taxes	$1,539 81
Making and repairing fences	3,741 50
Manuring	69 00
Fertilizing	504 40
Reseeding and mowing	818 00
Cash paid far pasture	72 25
Total pasture cost	$6,745 06

Bedding:		
443	tons straw, at $9.69	$4,291 00
300	loads sawdust, at 71 cents	212 25
606	bales shavings, at 23 cents	137 57
3	loads leaves, at $1	3 00
	Total bedding cost	$4,643 82

Receipts from Cattle.

Receipts from cattle products:

	Amt. in cwt.	*Total*
Market milk	242,117 at $1 63	$395,874 82
Creamery milk	7,849 at 1 51	11,872 30
Retail milk	73 at 3 00	219 00
Hides		3,917 45
Breeding fees		15 00
Milk used in house	3,223 at 2 00	6,446 00
Total receipts from stock products		$418,344 57
Increased value of cattle and sales above purchases		5,872 00
Value of manure, 47,072 loads** at $1.00		47,072 00
Total receipts		$471,288 57

** Pasture is charged at actual cost aside from manure. Cows are not credited with manure produced at pasture. If they were they would have to be charged with this much more for pasture so that the two items offset each other. Manure is valued at $1.00 per ton at barn. The time of hauling manure is not charged to cows. This would make the cost of manure $1.50 to $2.00 per load on the field.

Labor Incomes Made by Farmers.

"In Tompkins county, New York, in 1907, the average labor income made by 615 farmers was $423. About one-third of the farmers made less than $200, about one-third made $200 to $400, and one-third made over $400. Or, one-third failed to make hired man's wages, one-third made wages, and one-third made more than wages.[1]

"The house rent and farm products used in the house in this region probably average about $300, so that these farmers average about as much as a $700 salary in the city. They can save more than they could on this amount in a city, because they go without many things that they would be tempted to buy in a city.

"Some of the farmers made much less than hired-men receive; some received nothing for their year's work and lost money besides. Others made very good profits. Nine per cent. of the farmers in this county made labor incomes of over $1,000, and one per cent., made over $2,000. This is a general farming region that is about as prosperous as most of the North Atlantic states.

"In Northern Livingston county, the average labor income on 578 farms in 1909 was $666. This is one of the most prosperous regions in the United States. This labor income added to the value of house rent and farm products would probably be equal to about $1,000 in a city. Again, some of the farmers worked for nothing while others did well. One hundred fifty-three or 26 per cent. of the farmers made over $1,000 and 34, or 6 per cent., made over $2,000. The highest was $7,780.

"Jefferson county, New York, is a dairy region. Very little is sold except milk and hay. The average labor income of 670 farms in this county in 1910 was 609. One hundred forty-five, or 22 per cent. of the farmers made over $1,000, and 17, or 3 per cent., made over $2,000. The highest was $4,222."

From the above exhibits, it must be clear that under existing conditions, it is not likely that the farm lands of the State will be rapidly occupied. It is obvious that in order to overcome the trend towards the cities which has been going on for a generation, more dollars must flow into the country and the opportunities in country life must be made at least equal to those enjoyed by aggressive and capable men in the cities.

[1] New York, Cornell Bulletin 295, pp. 396–397.

It has been shown in the report of the Committee on Markets, Prices and Costs of this Commission, that it costs about 65 per cent. of every dollar paid for farm produce by the consumer, to perform the single function of distribution after the produce has been grown. This wide margin is a fund upon which producers could draw to secure more for their produce, provided the distribution of farm produce would be economically and scientifically carried on in the great centers of population. Consumers are paying now for food more than a proper proportion of their average incomes. The masses of wage earners in cities pay nearly half of their incomes for food now; it is consequently obvious that any increased return to the producers cannot come from the pockets of the consumers, but there must be a lessening of cost of distribution in between, and that the economies gained in the cost of distribution must be passed on at least in part to the producers, if agricultural development is to be stimulated and there be any appreciable increase in the volume of food supplies.

A comparison of the census figures for 1909 and 1910 shows that while the value of farm produce raised in the State is greater than in 1909, the volume of such produce has not appreciably increased. A comparison of the figures or statistics of rural population for the past thirty years, shows that the rural population of the State has remained almost stationary for the last thirty years, while the city population has doubled. In certain counties of the State, there has been a sharp decline in population.

While for many years it has been generally felt that freight rates have had a depressing effect upon production, yet when the freight rate borne by any food product grown in this State is compared with the retail price, it is found that this is only an infinitesimal proportion of the total price which the consumer pays. It is true that the policy of trunk line railroads in making equal or sometimes lower charges on certain staple food products for long hauls as for short hauls, has resulted in western lands being developed at the expense of nearby lands, and the Committee believes that the products from all producing areas should pay freight rates based on the cost of the service and not pay for the equalization of market accessibility.

It is doubtless true that the completion of the extensive program of improving country roads now in process of building, will do much to reduce the cost of transporting farm products from

point of production to the railway stations and will tend to open up inaccessible farm lands, which at present are not in use.

The Committee does not believe, however, that the mere building of roads without a radical reform in the method of selling farm produce, will result in increased returns to the producer or in stimulation to agricultural development. Co-operative associations among farmers should be established in all producing sections in the State and these co-operative associations should then develop a business organization for selling their products, wherever possible, directly to consumers.

The present tendencies of farmers' organizations both in this State and in all parts of the United States are in the direction of more direct participation in the selling of their products, and it may be confidently predicted that this system will be in general operation within the comparatively near future.

The Committee recommends that the State should do everything possible to bring the producers of farm products in the State in direct touch with consumers, and in order to accomplish this, specifically recommends: First, that the Legislature be urged to pass a bill permitting the establishment of co-operative associations; second, that a bill to bond and license commission merchants handling farm produce be enacted into law; third, that the bill to establish a bureau of Supervision of Co-operative Associations be placed upon the statute books; fourth, that legislation providing for the establishment of co-operative agricultural banks be prepared and that steps be taken to permit farmers to borrow money both on personal credit and long time mortgage loans.